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27 MAY 2005

PCT REQUEST

R03352 PCT

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| 0 | For receiving Office use only | |
| 0-1 | International Application No. | |
| 0-2 | International Filing Date | |
| 0-3 | Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application" | |



| | | |
|---------|---|--|
| 0-4 | Form - PCT/RO/101 PCT Request | |
| 0-4-1 | Prepared using | PCT-EASY Version 2.92 (updated 01.01.2003) |
| 0-5 | Petition The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty | |
| 0-6 | Receiving Office (specified by the applicant) | Japan Patent Office (RO/JP) |
| 0-7 | Applicant's or agent's file reference | R03352 PCT |
| I | Title of invention | COMPACT FRONT-OPERABLE IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS |
| II | Applicant | |
| II-1 | This person is: | applicant only |
| II-2 | Applicant for | all designated States except US |
| II-4 | Name | RICOH COMPANY, LTD. |
| II-5 | Address: | 3-6, Nakamagome 1-chome, Ohta-ku, Tokyo 143-8555 Japan |
| II-6 | State of nationality | JP |
| II-7 | State of residence | JP |
| II-8 | Telephone No. | 03-3777-8111 |
| II-9 | Facsimile No. | 03-5742-5429 |
| III-1 | Applicant and/or inventor | |
| III-1-1 | This person is: | applicant and inventor |
| III-1-2 | Applicant for | US only |
| III-1-4 | Name (LAST, First) | KATSUYAMA, Goro |
| III-1-5 | Address: | 11-4-1102, Ohgicho 4-chome, Naka-ku, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa 231-0027 Japan |
| III-1-6 | State of nationality | JP |
| III-1-7 | State of residence | JP |

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| III-2 | Applicant and/or inventor | |
| III-2-1 | This person is: | applicant and inventor |
| III-2-2 | Applicant for | US only |
| III-2-4 | Name (LAST, First) | KABUMOTO, Masaaki |
| III-2-5 | Address: | 285-28, Ohwada, Yachiyo-shi, Chiba 276-0045 Japan |
| III-2-6 | State of nationality | JP |
| III-2-7 | State of residence | JP |
| III-3 | Applicant and/or inventor | |
| III-3-1 | This person is: | applicant and inventor |
| III-3-2 | Applicant for | US only |
| III-3-4 | Name (LAST, First) | AMEMIYA, Kanae |
| III-3-5 | Address: | 16-13-202, Shimouma 4-chome, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo 154-0002 Japan |
| III-3-6 | State of nationality | JP |
| III-3-7 | State of residence | JP |
| III-4 | Applicant and/or inventor | |
| III-4-1 | This person is: | applicant and inventor |
| III-4-2 | Applicant for | US only |
| III-4-4 | Name (LAST, First) | MIKI, Osamu |
| III-4-5 | Address: | 21-9-202, Sawatari, Kanagawa-ku, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa 221-0844 Japan |
| III-4-6 | State of nationality | JP |
| III-4-7 | State of residence | JP |
| III-5 | Applicant and/or inventor | |
| III-5-1 | This person is: | applicant and inventor |
| III-5-2 | Applicant for | US only |
| III-5-4 | Name (LAST, First) | AOKI, Hideo |
| III-5-5 | Address: | 39-27-410, Nagatasannoudai, Minami-ku, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa 232-0074 Japan |
| III-5-6 | State of nationality | JP |
| III-5-7 | State of residence | JP |

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| III-6 | Applicant and/or inventor | |
| III-6-1 | This person is: | applicant and inventor |
| III-6-2 | Applicant for | US only |
| III-6-4 | Name (LAST, First) | TANAKA, Akiyoshi |
| III-6-5 | Address: | 11-26502, Okano 2-chome, Nishi-ku, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa 220-0073 Japan |
| III-6-6 | State of nationality | JP |
| III-6-7 | State of residence | JP |
| IV-1 | Agent or common representative; or address for correspondence The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on behalf of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as: | agent |
| IV-1-1 | Name | ITOH, Tadahiko |
| IV-1-2 | Address: | 32nd Floor, Yebisu Garden Place Tower, 20-3, Ebisu 4-chome, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-6032 Japan |
| IV-1-3 | Telephone No. | 03-5424-2511 |
| IV-1-4 | Facsimile No. | 03-5424-2525 |
| V | Designation of States | |
| V-1 | Regional Patent (other kinds of protection or treatment, if any, are specified between parentheses after the designation(s) concerned) | EP: AT BE BG CH&LI CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HU IE IT LU MC NL PT SE SI SK TR and any other State which is a Contracting State of the European Patent Convention and of the PCT |
| V-2 | National Patent (other kinds of protection or treatment, if any, are specified between parentheses after the designation(s) concerned) | CN KR SG US |
| V-5 | Precautionary Designation Statement In addition to the designations made under items V-1, V-2 and V-3, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) of the State(s) indicated under item V-6 below. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. | |
| V-6 | Exclusion(s) from precautionary designations | NONE |

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| VI-1 | Priority claim of earlier national application | | |
| VI-1-1 | Filing date | 04 December 2002 (04.12.2002) | |
| VI-1-2 | Number | Patent Application 2002-351942 | |
| VI-1-3 | Country | JP | |
| VI-2 | Priority claim of earlier national application | | |
| VI-2-1 | Filing date | 06 January 2003 (06.01.2003) | |
| VI-2-2 | Number | Patent Application 2003-000036 | |
| VI-2-3 | Country | JP | |
| VI-3 | Priority claim of earlier national application | | |
| VI-3-1 | Filing date | 18 November 2003 (18.11.2003) | |
| VI-3-2 | Number | Patent Application 2003-387446 | |
| VI-3-3 | Country | JP | |
| VI-4 | Priority document request The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): | VI-1, VI-2, VI-3 | |
| VII-1 | International Searching Authority Chosen | Japan Patent Office (JPO) (ISA/JP) | |
| VIII | Declarations | Number of declarations | |
| VIII-1 | Declaration as to the identity of the inventor | - | |
| VIII-2 | Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent | - | |
| VIII-3 | Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application | - | |
| VIII-4 | Declaration of inventorship (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America) | - | |
| VIII-5 | Declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty | - | |
| IX | Check list | number of sheets | electronic file(s) attached |
| IX-1 | Request (including declaration sheets) | 5 | - |
| IX-2 | Description | 48 | - |
| IX-3 | Claims | 7 | - |
| IX-4 | Abstract | 1 | EZABST00.TXT |
| IX-5 | Drawings | 49 | - |
| IX-7 | TOTAL | 110 | |

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| | Accompanying items | paper document(s) attached | electronic file(s) attached |
|-------|--|--|-----------------------------|
| IX-8 | Fee calculation sheet | ✓ | - |
| IX-17 | PCT-EASY diskette | - | Diskette |
| IX-18 | Other (specified): | Revenue stamps of transmittal and search fee for receiving offic | - |
| IX-18 | Other (specified): | Submission of certificate of payment for international fee | - |
| IX-19 | Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract | | |
| IX-20 | Language of filing of the international application | English | |
| X-1 | Signature of applicant, agent or common representative |  | |
| X-1-1 | Name | | |

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|--------|---|--------|
| 10-1 | Date of actual receipt of the purported international application | |
| 10-2 | Drawings: | |
| 10-2-1 | Received | |
| 10-2-2 | Not received | |
| 10-3 | Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application | |
| 10-4 | Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2) | |
| 10-5 | International Searching Authority | ISA/JP |
| 10-6 | Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid | |

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| 11-1 | Date of receipt of the record copy by the International Bureau | |
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